



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

5720

Ser DNS-36JP/15U106058

August 4, 2015

Sent via email to: [REDACTED]

Mr. David Carmichael
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Carmichael,

This is in reference to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated February 27, 2015. Your request was received in this office on May 6, 2015, and was assigned case number **DON-NAVY-2015-003978**.

We contacted the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Undersea Warfare Division (OPNAV N97). OPNAV N97 conducted a search for responsive records, but determined that no single document contains information that details terminology in use for various sonar contacts from U.S. undersea surveillance systems and U.S. submarines. OPNAV N97 further advised that information regarding how U.S. surveillance systems and U.S. submarines categorize sonar contacts is classified national security information, and exempt from disclosure under the FOIA in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552 (b) (1).

Because your request is denied, under 32 CFR §701.12(a), you may appeal the denial of your request by writing to:

Office of the Judge Advocate General
1322 Patterson Ave, SE, Ste 3000
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066

Your appeal must be received within sixty calendar days from the date of this letter. A copy of your initial request and this letter must accompany the appeal. The appeal should be marked "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL" both on the envelope and the face of the letter. In order to expedite the appellate process and ensure full consideration of your appeal, your appeal should contain a brief statement of the reasons you believe this initial decision to be in error.

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In this instance, the fees associated with the processing of this request were below the minimum threshold and have not been assessed. Please be advised, however, that fees, fee categories, and fee waivers are determined on a case-by-case basis, and a previous determination has no influence on future determinations.

Questions regarding the action this office has taken during the initial processing of your request may be directed to our FOIA service center at (202) 685-0412.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Patterson", is written over a horizontal line.

R. PATTERSON

Head, DON FOIA/PA Program Office